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Message Text

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PAGE 01 GENEVA 11633 281513Z
ACTION STR-07

INFO OCT-01 ARA-10 IO-13 ISO-00 STRE-00 OIC-02 AGRE-00
CEA-01 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00 EB-08 FRB-03 H-01
INR-10 INT-05 L-03 LAB-04 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01
CTME-00 AID-05 SS-15 ITC-01 TRSE-00 ICA-11 SP-02
SOE-02 OMB-01 DOE-15 /126 W
----------124974 281617Z /41
P 281514Z JUL 78
FM USMISSION GENEVA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 2652
INFO AMEMBASSY MEXICO

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USMTN

PASS STR ELECTRONICALLY FOR ACTION

STR PASS CODEL

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: ETRD, MTN, MX
SUBJECT: PRIVATE MEETING BETWEEN MR. GARRIDO AND AMBASSADOR MCDONALD

REF: GENEVA 11376

1. THE ABOVE DISCUSSION ON JULY 27 SUMMARIZED OUR PRESENT NEGOTIATING POSTURES SHORTLY BEFORE MR. GARRIDO'S DEPARTURE FROM GENEVA. IN GENERAL, THE POINTS REPORTED IN THE SUMMARY AND COMMENTS SECTIONS OF REFTEL WERE COVERED AND RECONFIRMED.

2. MCDONALD INDICATED CONSIDERABLE U.S. DISAPPOINTMENT AT THIS STAGE IN THREE DIFFERENT AREAS:
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PAGE 02 GENEVA 11633 281513Z

A. THE INADEQUACY OF THE MEXICAN OFFER, WHICH DOES NOT APPEAR TO PROVIDE AN ADEQUATE BASE FOR NEGOTIATIONS,

B. THE RELATIVELY EXTREME POSITIONS TAKEN IN PUBLIC MEETINGS BY MEXICO ON THE NTM CODES, AND

Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014

Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014

C. MEXICO'S AMBIVALENCE ABOUT JOINING THE GATT.

3. GARRIDO AGREED TO WORK WITH HIS MINISTRIES TO ATTEMPT TO IMPROVE THE MEXICAN OFFER AND SAID THAT HE FELT IT CERTAINLY COULD BE UPGRADED BEFORE THE LAST HOUR. HE ALSO ASKED FOR THE U.S. TO TRY TO IMPROVE ITS OFFER RE THE MEXICAN REQUEST.

4. CONCERNING NTM CODES, HE SAID THAT MEXICO'S POSITIONS WERE BECOMING INCREASINGLY REALISTIC AND THAT HE THOUGHT THEY WERE OPEN FOR SEEKING SUCCESSFUL ACCOMMODATION ON THE CODES.

5. AS FOR GATT ACCESSION, HE THINKS THIS IS SUCH A DOMESTIC POLITICAL ISSUE THAT IT WILL TAKE CONTINUING AND ADROIT U.S. PRESSURE AND ENCOURAGEMENT FOR A POSITIVE DECISION. WE DISCUSSED THE POSSIBILITY OF AMB. STRAUSS FOLLOWING THROUGH PERSONALLY WITH PRESIDENT LOPEZ PORTILLO BY TELEPHONE IN SEPTEMBER TO INDICATE OUR INTEREST IN A POSITIVE MEXICAN DECISION TO JOIN THE GATT AND ENCOURAGING THEM TO FULLY APPRECIATE SOME OF THE BENEFITS THIS WOULD BRING TO MEXICO OVER TIME.

6. IN CLOSING, GARRIDO SAID THAT HE LOOKED FORWARD TO CONTINUING DISCUSSIONS PROBABLY NEAR THE END OF SEPTEMBER AND SUGGESTED THAT ALTHOUGH HE SHARED OUR PESSIMISTIC
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PAGE 03 GENEVA 11633 281513Z

VIEW OF THE CURRENT SITUATION, HE BELIEVES WE CAN STILL PRODUCE A SATISFACTORY RESULT OVERALL. MCDONALD

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Message Attributes

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Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
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20 Mar 2014
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